

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed August 22, 2006, has been received and reviewed. Claims 1 through 6 and 9 through 15 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1 through 6 and 9 through 15 stand rejected. Applicant has amended claim 1 and presents new claim 64. Support for new claim 64 is found throughout the specification and, more specifically, at at least page 12, lines 7-14 of the as-filed specification. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application as amended herein.

35 U.S.C. § 112 Claim Rejections

Claims 1 through 6 and 9 through 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Specifically, as to claim 1, the Examiner alleges that “[a]lthough there is support for the conductive layer becoming flowable after applying energy, there is no support in the submitted disclosure as to the conductive layer becoming molten after applying energy to the energy absorbing layer.” Office Action mailed August 22, 2006, at pages 2-3. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, as hereinafter set forth.

Although Applicant does not agree that the claims lack written description, to expedite prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to delete the language “become molten.” In light of this amendment, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn and the claim reconsidered.

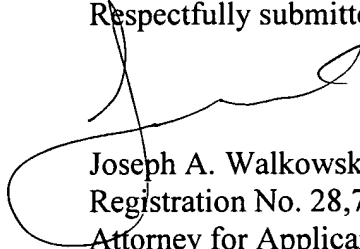
Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that sufficient written description exists for claims 2-6 and 9-15, as claims 2-6 and 9-15 depend, directly or indirectly, from amended claim 1. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 2-6 and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, be withdrawn and the claims reconsidered.

New claim 64 is allowable as depending from allowable independent claim 1.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-6, 9-15, and 64 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph A. Walkowski', is written over the typed name and title.

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